

REMARKS

Further to the Examiner's comments in the attachment to the August 1, 2007 Advisory Action, Applicants amend claim 1 and add new dependent claims 8 and 9 to more fully describe the patentable aspects of the invention. As set forth in amended claim 1, the shock absorbing material comprises a single pad and a hole for deacration which is formed so as to penetrate a first surface and a second surface of the single pad.

Applicants incorporate herein all arguments presented in the July 26, 2007 Response. Furthermore, it appears the Examiner asserts that when the upper pad 10 and the lower pad 20 of the Koike reference (US 2002/0189970) are stacked, with the article 50 in between, there is a hole formed between the hollow projections 15 and 25 of pads 10 and 20, respectively (see the Examiner's note on Figure 4 on page 3 of the Advisory Action). Therefore, the Examiner appears to assert that this formed hole penetrates between a first surface and a second surface of the shock absorbing material. The alleged hole formed between the hollow projections 15 and 25, however, does not penetrate a single pad, as recited in claim 1, but is merely "formed" when two pads enclose the article 50. Thus, Koike fails to disclose each and every feature of claim 1 for this additional reason.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114(c)
U.S. Application No.: 10/542,374

Attorney Docket No.: Q87773

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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